Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 03344 271803Z

15

ACTION ERDA-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-05 CIAE-00 INR-07

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R 271753Z FEB 76 FM AMEMBASSY BONN TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6808 INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: TECH, GW

SUBJECT: FRANCO-GERMAN COOPERATION IN FAST BREEDER AND

HTR FIELDS

REF: STATE 047136

- 1. EMBASSY CONTACTS EMPHASIZE THAT FRG AND FRANCE HAVE NOT RPT NOT SIGNED AN "AGREEMENT" FOR COOPERATION IN FBR AND HTR FIELDS. DURING "SUMMIT" MEETING AT NICE, GERMAN AND FRENCH MINISTERS MATTHOEFER AND D'ORNANO SIGNED A 'DECLARATION" ABOUT COOPERATION IN PEACEFUL USES OF NUCLEAR ENERGY. ONE KNOWLEDGEABLE FRG OFFICIAL CHARACTERIZED THIS AS A "WEAK LETTER OF INTENT" INCLUDING COOPERATION IN SUCH FIELDS AS FAST BREEDER REACTOR DEVELOPMENT. ACCORDING TO THIS GERMAN CONTACT, FRENCH REFUSED TO SIGN A MORE FORMAL AGREEMENT BECAUSE FRENCH NUCLEAR INDUSTRY WAS NOT YET ORGANIZED TO NEGOTIATE ONE WHICH WOULD SET UP AN APPROPRIATE RELATIONSHIP INVOLVING SALES OF THEIR KNOW-HOW.
- 2. OUR CONTACTS ALSO EMPHASIZE THAT FRG IS SERIOUSLY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 BONN 03344 271803Z

INTERESTED IN COOPERATION WITH US. THEY DENY THAT THE

POSSIBILITY OF COOPERATION WITH FRENCH SOMETIME IN THE FUTURE WILL HAVE ANY NEGATIVE IMPACT ON US-FRG COOPERATION. IN THEIR VIEW, US AND FRG WILL NEVER BE COMPETITORS IN LMFBR FIELD, BILATERAL COOPERATION THUS PROMISES TO BE EASY AND MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL.

- 3. INDUSTRIAL RELATIONSHIPS MENTIONED REFTEL APPEAR TO BE POSSIBILITIES FOR THE LONG TERM BUT NOT IMMEDIATE PROSPECTS.
- 4. SENIOR OFFICIALS IN BMFT PLAN TO MEET ON FRIDAY. MARCH 12, TO DEVELOP GERMAN POSITION ON THE ONE REMAINING DIFFERENCE IN US-FRG AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION IN FBR FIELD. ONE CONTACT HINTED THAT IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE TO COMPLETE THIS NEGOTIATION ASAP TO MINIMIZE ANY IMPACT OF PRESENT OR FUTURE FRANCE FRG COOPERATIVE PROGRAMS.
- 5. EMBASSY CONTINUING TO EXPLORE GERMAN VIEWS. WILL REPORT FURTHER ASAP. HILLENBRAND

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Message Attributes

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